



MINUTES

LANDMARK PRESERVATION
COMMISSION

Council Briefing Room, 3rd Floor
101 W. Abram Street, Arlington

September 14, 2023
6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present

Kristina Rumans, Chair
O.K. Carter
Zane Gober
Geraldine Mills
Jason Sullivan
Jennifer Hurley
Cheryl Donaldson
Julie Hunt
Rodrick Penson

Absent

Staff

Sarah Stubblefield
Anthony Cisneros
Jacob Browning
Patricia Sinel
David Engel

- I. **Call to Order** – Chair Rumans called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Announcements**

Commissioner Hunt announced that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Mineral Well opening would take place on September 16th at 9:00am.

Commissioner Mills announced North Texas Giving Day fundraising opportunities on September 21st.

- IV. **Approval of Minutes** – August 10, 2023

Commissioner Gober provided a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Carter seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

- V. **Demolition Permits**

1. **205 Slaughter Street**

Mr. Cisneros presented the following information: The structure was built in 1944 on .901 acres. The current zoning is Entertainment District Overlay – Medium Residential Density 12 (EDO-RM 12). Current use is Single Family Development with similar adjacent uses.

The current owner is Gametime Casitas LP. There have been a variety of owners over time going back to H.W. Haynie (1944), according to the deed records. The structure

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is listed as a low priority in the Historic Resources Survey, but it does not have other historical designations at the state or federal levels; and it is not designated as a local landmark.

Commissioner Carter provided a motion to release the historic stay on 205 Slaughter Street. Commissioner Donaldson seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 8 -1.

2. 6920 Rutland Drive

Mr. Cisneros presented the following information: The structure is in the Webb Community area and was built in 1925 on .17 acres. The current zoning is Planned Development – Residential Single Family 5 (PD-RS-5), recently approved by City Council in April 2022. Current use is Single Family Development with similar adjacent uses.

The current owner is Yogesh Patil. Mr. Patil was present and answered questions regarding the house’s condition and whether the new development would incorporate any of the Webb Community’s historic characteristics. Mr. Patil explained that the new development would try to incorporate historic features and he would share renderings with the Commission.

The Commission decided to take no action on the demolition permit and would revisit at the October 12, 2023, meeting, which will take place within the 45-day extension that was approved on September 14, 2023.

VI. Dangerous and Substandard Structures

1. 711 Linda Vista Avenue

David Engel, City of Arlington Code Compliance Department, presented information on Linda Vista Apartments. The property is owned by Forest Resources, Inc. in Arlington. The property is multi-family and consists of four residential buildings, 112 apartments, two non-residential buildings, one housing the office and administrative spaces and a boiler; the other non-residential building houses another boiler and storage facilities for the apartment complex. The structure was built in 1965 and has no known historical value. The property is located off Cooper Street, two blocks north of Park Row Drive, and one block south of Bengé Avenue, and set back from the street.

Mr. Engel explained that the complex has numerous code infractions and isn’t up to a living condition. The complex currently has 152 code infractions that were observed in July 2023. The complex has received a score of 38 which is on record as the lowest score ever received by an apartment complex since the inception of the current scoring program.

Commissioner Penson provided a motion to release the property, 711 Linda Vista, back to the city for demolition. Commissioner Mills seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. 1724 Joyce Street

David Engel, City of Arlington Code Compliance Department, presented information on property located at 1724 Joyce Street. The property is owned by Marsha Elizabeth Williams. The structure was built in 1943 and has no known historical value. The property is located west of Browning Drive and two blocks south of Abram Street.

Mr. Engel explained that the house is currently inhabitable due to severe water damage to the flooring which has caused the kitchen floor to become extremely unstable. The structure also has accumulated rotted wood and debris throughout the interior of the home. The DSS inspection also noted that some rooms were in accessible due to debris blocking the entrances.

Commissioner Hunt provided a motion to release the property, 1724 Joyce Street, back to the city for demolition. Commissioner Penson seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 8-1.

VII. Local Marker Application

1. Upstairs Gallery – 1038 W. Abram Street

Mr. Browning provided a presentation for the Local Marker Application for 1038 W. Abram Street, which is commonly known as the Upstairs Gallery. This application received support from the current owners of the Upstairs Gallery, James and Mac Martin.

In 1938, Elsie Brotze Robinson (1909-2005) and her husband, Duncan W. Robinson, purchased a property from Velma Lampe and constructed a unique home featuring murphy beds in every room. These beds have since been converted into art display shelves.

In 1967, Eleanor Grace Martin and her artist friends transformed the Robinson house into The Upstairs Gallery, an institution that has been sharing art with Arlington for 56 years. Initially, Eleanor and her friends painted at Eleanor's home, but they eventually decided to exhibit their work in a downtown space, located above her son Mac's recording studio. This decision led to the gallery's inaugural public show in 1968. The Upstairs Gallery has since become a vibrant hub for artists and a family endeavor, with James Martin, former Arlington Independent School District Superintendent, providing invaluable support. Eleanor's enduring legacy lives on through the gallery's art workshops and classes, nurturing emerging artists and providing a space for art enthusiasts to connect and experience the joy of art.

Commissioner Hunt provided a motion to recommend the property as an Arlington Local Marker. Commissioner Hurley seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously.

VIII. LPC 2023 Public Hearing Schedule Discussion

Mr. Browning informed the Commission that he will not be present for the November 9, 2023, meeting and suggested that the Commission move the date to November 2, 2023.

Ms. Stubblefield informed the Commission that the discussion would allow the schedule amendment to be voted on at the October 12 meeting. The Commission decided to move on with addition of the schedule amendment for the October 12, 2023, meeting.

IX. Work Plan Items

1. CLG Grant Application FY 2024 Cycle

Mr. Browning informed the Commission that they would not be pursuing a grant application for the FY 2024 Cycle in anticipation for the FY 2025 Cycle, where the Commission will be pursuing a larger grant for the Historic Resource Survey Update.

2. Historic Home Tour Update

Commissioner Hunt did not have an update for the Historic Home Tour Update. Commissioner Mills informed the Commission that there is an opportunity to a Christmas tour of historic homes for the next year. Commissioner Mills and Hunt will be working together on the historic homes tour.

3. Historic Resources Map Update

Mr. Cisneros provided a quick demo of updates that were made to the online Historic Resources Map located on the Commission's website.

4. Other Local Marker Items

There were no items discussed.

X. Historic Preservation Officer Report

Mr. Browning said there was no report-out.

XI. Citizen Participation

XII. Future Agenda Items – September 14, 2023

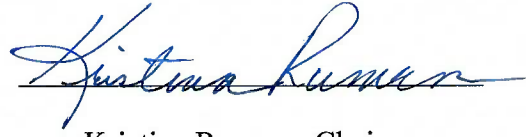
Mr. Browning clarified that the 2023 Workplan status and 2024 Workplan development will be on the October 12 agenda.

Commissioner Gober requested an agenda item to discuss the gap in the zoning application process and why the Commission isn't informed until after zoning requests are approved.

XIII. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the commission meeting was provided by Commissioner Donaldson and seconded by Commissioner Mills.

Upon unanimous approval, Chair Rumans adjourned the commission meeting at 7:29 p.m.



Kristina Rumans, Chair

ATTEST:

Secretary to the Commission
APPROVED this 12th day of October 2023

